



Climate change. A global threat to cardiopulmonary health

Author(s): Rice MB, Thurston GD, Balmes JR, Pinkerton KE
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Abstract:

Recent changes in the global climate system have resulted in excess mortality and morbidity, particularly among susceptible individuals with preexisting cardiopulmonary disease. These weather patterns are projected to continue and intensify as a result of rising CO₂ levels, according to the most recent projections by climate scientists. In this Pulmonary Perspective, motivated by the American Thoracic Society Committees on Environmental Health Policy and International Health, we review the global human health consequences of projected changes in climate for which there is a high level of confidence and scientific evidence of health effects, with a focus on cardiopulmonary health. We discuss how many of the climate-related health effects will disproportionately affect people from economically disadvantaged parts of the world, who contribute relatively little to CO₂ emissions. Last, we discuss the financial implications of climate change solutions from a public health perspective and argue for a harmonized approach to clean air and climate change policies.

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3977715>

Resource Description

Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Extreme Weather Event, Temperature, Unspecified Exposure

Air Pollution: Allergens, Ozone, Particulate Matter

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones

Temperature: Extreme Heat, Fluctuations

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: ☒

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cardiovascular Effect, Respiratory Effect

Cardiovascular Effect: Other Cardiovascular Effect

Cardiovascular Disease (other): cardiopulmonary morbidity and mortality

Respiratory Effect: Other Respiratory Effect

Respiratory Condition (other) : cardiopulmonary morbidity and mortality

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Mitigation

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified